

Bee City USA - Burlington VT

Report on 2022



Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

*The Champlain School K-5 community, along with about 40 volunteers from Grow Wild, Burlington HS Environmental Justice Club, and the UVM City and Lake Semester students added wood chips to maintain the previously planted corridor of 200 trees and shrubs on the school property. The site also has established a plant nursery for the coming season. *At Lakeview Cemetery this year we added a large demonstration area on the steep exit banks, a sandy area difficult to maintain. Volunteers also updated and maintained the entry sign garden with an ecological approach including using weeded material as mulch and leaving stems for bee habitat. *We added inkberry and native groundcover to replace a massive yew behind the sign. *The Tommy Thompson pollinator garden in the intervale was expanded and maintained by 120 volunteers from Seventh Generation and VHCB. *The city continued planting Native trees and shrubs along the Greenway/bike path. *A native garden swath was installed at Pomeroy Park. *Edmunds Elementary students and parents started a pollinator garden on Main Street.

How many habitat projects did you help to create or enhance last year?

8

How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?

100000

How many volunteers helped with those projects?

400

Please check all that describe the habitats your affiliate helped to create or enhance last year with pollinator benefit in mind.

- Flower garden
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Meadow
- Native pollinator-friendly tree planting
- Native pollinator-friendly shrub border/hedgerow planting
- Rain garden/bioswale
- Roadside/rights of way planting

- School garden



Native plants surround the welcome sign at the Lakeview Cemetery in a collaboration between the cemetery commission and Grow Wild.



Champlain Elementary spread wood chips around their wildlife corridor.



Volunteers work at the Tommy Thompson community garden site.

Education & Outreach

Our Bee City organization is supported by the local partnership 'Grow Wild'. *In April 2022 we provided plant lists for local conditions and information at the City Nature Celebration. *In May our GW Education point Kate Kruesi, spoke to the members of the Hardy Plant club (see video: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1btssPH4NYLgpFLYGiN-nYLMOkBmu2pJh>) *In June 300 native seedlings were donated by a local native plant nursery and distributed along with smiles and information on the benefits of native plants at the annual Old North End neighborhood Decatur Fest. *Grow Wild representatives addressed a meeting of the Burlington Area Community Garden leaders to promote ecological pollinator habitat garden maintenance, specifically leaving plant material for habitat at the beginning of the growing season. *We also tabled the BCAG garden's 50th anniversary to provide more information on pollinator habitat to likely gardeners. *In November 20 volunteers planted locally-collected native seeds at the University of Vermont for distribution to the community and for Burlington Parks Dept. maintained areas. Finally, we have launched a subscription to our newsletter, join us:

<https://growwildvt.us13.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=e3e62929f5c88b8804dbf90bd&id=2cc41dd32a>

How many pollinator-related events did your affiliate host or help with last year (in total)?

6

How many people attended those events (in total)?

How many Bee City USA logo street signs have you installed to date (in total)?

1

Did your city council/county commission (highest elected body) issue a proclamation for National Pollinator Week last summer? Please note: this is now an optional activity.

- No



grow wild Basic Native Plants		DRY SOIL FULL SUN	BURLINGTON VT
Black Chokeberry <i>Ajonon sibiricum</i>	<input type="radio"/> White Bloom Early Spring	H 3-6 ft I 4-6 ft	Shrub. Named cultivars will still provide floral resources for many pollinators and larger berries for you and the birds.
Foxglove Beardtongue <i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	<input type="radio"/> White Bloom Early Spring	H 1.5 ft I 1-3 ft	For drier soils. Important nectar source for long-tongued bees, sphinx moths, and hummingbirds. Caterpillars of several moth species feed on leaves. Allow it to reseed.
Shrubby St. John's-wort <i>Hypericum ascyron</i> or <i>H. perforatum</i>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yellow Bloom Early Spring: Mid Summer	H 3-4 ft I 4 ft	Small shrub. Both species are significant midseason pollen sources for multiple insects. Though not native to VT, both are native in NY and NJ. <i>H. perforatum</i> is a vigorous seeder.
Butterfly Milkweed <i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Orange Bloom Mid Summer	H 1-2 ft I 1-2 ft	Taprooted clumping milkweed that needs small patches of bare soil to reseed. Monarch butterfly caterpillars and milkweed leaf beetles eat the leaves. Popular with pollinators.
Wild Bergamot <i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Pink/Lavender Bloom Mid Summer: Late Fall	H 1.5 ft I 2-3 ft	Non-spreading species of bee balm or bergamot. Provides nectar for bumblebees, butterflies, moths, wasps, flies and beetles.
Narrow Leaf Mountain Mint <i>Psycotriponum sp. P. tenuifolia</i>	<input type="radio"/> White Bloom Mid Summer: Late Fall	H 2 ft I 1.5-2.5 ft	Slowly spreads. Minty, fragrant foliage. Pollinator powerhouse plant providing many weeks of floral resources for multiple insects. Will reseed.
Purple Giant Hyssop <i>Agastache sp. A. scrophulariifolia</i>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Purple Bloom Mid Summer: Late Fall	H 1.5-2 ft I 3-6 ft	Provides a long season of floral resources to multiple pollinators. Needs small patches of bare soil to reseed. <i>A. scrophulariifolia</i> is a rare VT native. <i>A. foeniculum</i> is native to the midwest but an
Hyssop Leaved Boneset <i>Eupatorium hyssopifolium</i>	<input type="radio"/> White Bloom Mid Summer: Late Fall	H 1.5-2 ft I 2-3 ft	Native of southern New England that thrives in Burlington's medium to dry sand/silt soils with many weeks of late season floral resources for pollinators. Modestly self seeds.
Little Bluestem Grass <i>Schizanthus scoparium</i>	<input type="radio"/> White Tufts Late Fall	H 1-2 ft I 1-3 ft	Clumping grass. Host plant for skipper butterflies and protected winter habitat for next year's bumble bees under its "skirts". Pink/tan winter color.

Stem Habitat for Pollinators

Tori Hellwig
Grow Wild Initiative
April 20, 2022

Policies & Practices

newsletters and educational events

What actions have you taken to make pest management practices more pollinator-friendly?

- Avoided use of pesticides in public sites containing designated pollinator habitat or other sensitive features (except when targeted use is deemed the best option for invasive or noxious weed, insect or disease management)
- Eliminated pesticide uses that are solely to maintain aesthetics on city or campus grounds
- Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of

pesticide use

- Sourced plants for city or campus grounds using “Buying Bee-Safe Plants” methods recommended by Xerces Society. (See <https://xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/buying-bee-safe-plants>)

Are efforts underway in your community to further reduce pesticide use in residential or business areas? This may include neighborhood-led efforts, outreach to landscapers, etc. If so, please describe.

In your city or campus, are any policy initiatives underway to further protect pollinators, people or waterways from pesticides?

Please describe actions by your affiliate to attend training on ecologically-based Integrated Pest Management and/or to review IPM plans and programs considered of high quality by Bee City USA?

Integrated Pest Management Plan:

Recommended Native Plant List:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1v3T6bt6PV2S-O4Nv0w6f8-45ZazomYOD/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=107892845364021615913&rtpof=true&sd=true>

Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:

Learn More

<https://burlingtonwildways.org/get-involved/grow-wild>
dcahill@burlingtonvt.gov



Members of Grow Wild/Bee City Burlington at our first annual retreat